6th August 1929]

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know why the Government have not arrived at any decision in the matter ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Because it is a complicated problem."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know, Sir, when the Government will be in a position to decide this question ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I cannot say exactly."

Public Health

Prevention of leprosy in Ganjam district.

*43 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the district of Ganjam has proportionately the highest number of lepers in the Presidency ;

(b) whether the Government have collected any statistics on this subject ;

(c) if so, whether they will place them on the table ;

(d) whether any remedial measures have been projected or contemplated by them ;

(e) whether they have called for any reports from the District Medical Officer and District Health Officer, Ganjam, on this question ; and

(f) if so, whether they will place them on the table ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the census Table XII—Part II, Volume XIII.

(d) Seventeen centres for the treatment of leper out-patients have been opened in seventeen hospitals and dispensaries in the Ganjam district.

(e) & (f) No.

Control over rural medical practitioners by local board presidents.

*44 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the medical officers under the rural medical schemes are regarded by the Government as officials or non-officials ; and

(b) what are the powers that the presidents of taluk and district boards have on such practitioners ?

A.—(a) As non-officials.

(b) Rural medical practitioners work under an agreement with the taluk boards. Presidents of Taluk Boards have to watch that the terms of the agreement are not infringed by the practitioners, while the taluk boards can terminate the agreement at any time without notice in the event of any breach of the agreement by the practitioners. Presidents of District Boards have no control over them.